GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:173
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
National Telecom Security Policy
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has put in place or proposes to put in place the National Telecommunication Security Policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including salient features of the said policy;

(c) whether all the Telecom Service Providers (TSP) are following the instructions issued by the Government regarding security audit of telecom equipments, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action taken/being taken by the Government against erring TSPs, TSP-wise?

Answer

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 173 FOR 9TH March, 2016 REGARDING "NATIONAL TELECOM SECURITY POLICY".

(a) to (b) Madam, the National Telecom Policy 2012 is in place which inter-alia has the following provisions for National Telecommunication Security:

(i) Mandate and enforce that TSPs take adequate measures for security of their networks.

(ii) Develop and deploy state of the art systems for assistance to Law Enforcement Agencies.

(iii) Create Institutional framework to ensure safe-to-connect device are inducted into the network.

(iv) Facilitate establishment of National Mobile Property Registry for addressing security, theft and other concerns including reprogramming of Mobile Handsets.

(v) Build National capacity in areas of security standards, security testing, interception and monitoring capabilities and manufacturing of telecom equipment.

(vi) Work towards an electronics ecosystem of wafer fab etc indigenously manufactured multi-functional SIM cards, indigenously designed chips.

(vii) Mandate standards in areas of security in all building blocks i.e. devices, elements and physical infrastructure like towers, buildings.

(viii) Provide preference to domestically manufactured telecommunication products in procurement of those products which have security implications for the country.

(ix) Develop rational criterion for sharing costs beyond a threshold between government and service providers for implementing security measures.

(c) to (d) The license conditions inter-alia mandated that the Licensees shall audit their network or get the network audited from security point of view once a year from a network audit and certification agency. Reports received from the TSPs indicate that the instructions regarding Security Audit of Telecom networks are complied with.

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